

Video shows how little the current generation knows about World War II and the Holocaust

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Young people today know very little about the war or the Holocaust. History is no longer a priority in the schools. This is a serious problem in Canada, the United States and many other countries.

Jerry Amernic

NOVEMBER 3, 2015, LOS ANGELES: Canadian author Jerry Amernic, whose novel *The Last Witness* is about the last living survivor of the Holocaust in a near-future world that doesn't know history, has produced a video that shows the future is here. He asked university students in Toronto questions about the Holocaust and World War II, and found they didn't know how many Jews were killed, who FDR and Churchill were, who the Allies were, or what happened on D-Day.

“As we approach November 11th it's a chilling reminder that young people today know very little about the war or the Holocaust,” says Amernic.

His 3-minute video is on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HF1j2Ee9jS0>

A longer version of the video has been shown at an international conference of historians and scholars in Poland, and is in the film library at Yad Vashem, the World Center for Holocaust Research in Jerusalem. During the recent Canadian election campaign, a candidate with a Master's degree who is also a school trustee admitted she didn't know what Auschwitz was. Amernic says he wasn't surprised.

“History is no longer a priority in the schools,” he said. “This is a serious problem in Canada, the United States and many other countries.”

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